

Edgefield Advertiser.

"We will cling to the Pillars of the Temple of our Liberties, and if it must fall, we will perish amidst the Ruins."

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BY WM. F. DURISOE,
EDITOR & PROPRIETOR.

NEW TERMS.

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Agricultural.

From the Commercial Review of the S. & W. True Remedy for the Embarrassment of Cotton Planters at the South and South-West.

The interests of these sections are in a manner identical, their crops and modes of cultivation being similar, the only difference to be discerned is found in the greater productiveness of the present time, of the soil throughout the latter. The agricultural prospects and the doings of the planter will be considered more in reference to the latter.

Good men, and true, have devoted much attention to the agriculture of this country; they have given good and wise precepts; they have striven to change the present unpleasant state of affairs; and most assuredly have their labors been effectual. There may not be any very marked change, but there has been much improvement in the mode of managing an estate, which will in due time bear an abundant harvest. That the best is not done, that the precepts have not had full consideration, any one man may see for himself, but no reasonable man could expect to change a routine of almost half a century's standing, in a few moments; to change the habits of a people requires almost an age; to see the change has certainly begun, is sufficient; and to show it, witness the sales of hay, pork, beef, mutton, wood, fruit, etc., from Mississippi, within the past 18 months. The present price of cotton is too low for the cotton planter, he cannot afford to make cotton when not yielding over from \$100 to \$140 per hand. It matters not how this state of agricultural depression was brought about; whether it be caused by the tariff, whether by the banks loaning freely, and thus causing increased product, or how; the important matter is not to quarrel about who, or what caused, but like working men apply the means to effect a change. Can a change be effected? What means should be applied? and when should they be applied? are questions open for investigation.

A writer in the last number of the Commercial Review, answers them at length; whether satisfactory to the people or not, it is not necessary to say. To strike at the root of the evil, it would be well to examine the whole matter, as the lawyer would his case, or the physician his patient, and not content to rely on a few statements.

The planter is regretting his peculiar hard lot; his negroes are worked full hours, and he receives a bare pittance of the returns made to the manufacturer or to the sugar planter: he plants more cotton, works his negroes harder, drives all day and part of the night, and yet he complains. Like the ostrich venter, he will not be convinced that calamity is killing his patient, but he gives larger and larger doses. What is the result? He is compelled to pay doctors larger bills for attentions on the sick, caused by over-work; he has to pay to Kentucky larger prices for mules or horses, and hemp, the price being increased by the increased demand; he wants more meat and more bread, owing to his not having time to make them; he has to make a greater show of wealth, as his poor neighbors who make less cotton and more meat and bread, and clothing, and colts, and stock generally, are beginning to buy conveyances for their families to ride to church in; he turns off an overseer every few months, and finally laments, until he is weary, over his fate.

Should such a man be advised to hold on to his crop for better prices? Apply to the Legislature to give premiums? Make less cotton? Build up Manufactories? This has been done again and again. What then counsel him to do? Examine the case well, and let a planter who has long watched the course of events, act as a kind of mentor, whilst you are making an examination. Do you not see that on this plantation the negroes are over-worked, although they are fed high; you see no small children; you hear not the cheerful song nor the laugh that comes from the happy negro. You will also please to observe the beautiful quality of the hay, put up in handsome square bales; these bales are from Ohio, and good hay it is. Do you mark the sacks that are lying there, they once contained corn that you will perceive was from a flatboat, if you will lift a sack to your nose. Here, sir, is as neat an axe helve as was ever made in Connecticut; good bridles and good collets, good back-bands, all they cost a mere trifle. You will find excellent Lowell and good linsey, it being cheaper to buy than to make; and besides, there is nothing saved even by working at this kind of

work on wet days. You will find yonder a fine, sleek, well conditioned horse, he belongs to the overseer; and near at hand you see the rough outside of a very good carriage horse, corn is too scarce to feed him with. Ah! and there goes the planter; he has just returned from a political stump harangue, where the planters have been discussing the merits of the candidates for the next Presidency. Shall we visit the house, and see the China and the silver, and silk and lace, and extra servants? No, no! We will not enter into the sanctum of the injured one—he is an injured man. The merchant and the manufacturer have conspired to put him down. England determines to take his slaves from him; he is desponding, and cannot for the soul of him go to work like the manufacturer, or the merchant, but expects the "good old times" to return again. Have you seen enough? Can you see what is first requisite?

Let the planter set to work himself, and turn off his overseer; let him make his bread, his meat, raise a few colts and hay to feed them on; let him increase the quantity of corn and forage until he can spare a little, let him take the interest in his own business that the merchant or manufacturer must who expects success; let him learn his sons that idleness is the road to ruin; let him teach his daughters that they are the future makers or mariners of this beautiful republic; let him ever remember the old saying, "master's footsteps are mine to his land," and we think he will have less cause to repine, and more cause to think that his "lot is cast in happy places."

Good, very good, sir; you have now struck at the root of the evil, and it is to be hoped that you will enter more minutely into the particulars how all these matters should be effected.

The question in the latter part of the second paragraph are answered in a summary manner above, the answers follow as evidently as cause precedes its effect; unless there was a remedy there would be folly in talking of it. If the remedy be not found in diminishing expenses, practising frugality and industry, and thus of course diminishing the amount of cotton for sale, then there is no use to search for a remedy. And if these things can and ought to be done, then promptness should be the watchword. The merchant who controls his millions, is found attending to his business; true, he has his clerks and porters, but he is not the less diligent. The lawyer is busy with his "books" and "papers"—an eye and an ear to the "pre-scriptions" and his "visits." The manufacturer, ever working "short hours," has to examine into the "state of trade," or else he will lose his "market." Why then should the planter above all others be permitted to pass his days and nights in listless idleness. Has he exemption from "by the sweat of thy face, thou shalt earn thy daily bread," or, "he that will not work, neither shall he eat." There is one thing certain, the planters of the South and the Southwest must give up sloth and idleness; they must take the lesson taught by Hercules to the wagoner: "put your shoulders to the wheel." Besides this, they must pursue a more mixed course of husbandry, they have reeled long enough on the one thing, it is high time another course was pursued.

That manufactories would benefit this portion of the United States there is not a shadow of doubt; that Legislature aid, directed to developing the latest facilities of the country would, is evidently plain. That making less cotton would enhance the price is highly reasonable. But were all these done, and the present practice pursued, the improvement would be delusive. The redress to be effectual must commence at home; the improvement to be valid and permanent must start at the planter's own house.

The Electric Gun.—This great destroying power is at present exhibiting in London. It is a small carriage running upon a pair of wheels, and having a third wheel attached, by which it traverses with ease and steadiness. The barrel for discharging the bullets is over the body of the machine, and admirably adapted for taking aim at any altitude, so that a pigeon's flight could be followed in the air. It is supplied with balls by two chambers, one of which is fixed, the other moveable. The latter is called the volley chamber, and can be made to contain any number of balls. The model contains but 50 balls, but is constructed to hold 200, from 1,000 to 1,200, it is stated, could be discharged in a minute; and so great is the force with which the balls were sent a distance of forty yards, that a 1½ inch plank was penetrated at every shot, the balls flattening, and in some instances were scattered into fragments. The volleys are shot off in quick succession, and while being reloaded, the stationary chamber continues to supply the barrel, so that a constant discharge may be obtained for months if required. The bullets are five-eighths of an inch in diameter, but, with a little enlargement of apparatus, balls of an inch diameter could be discharged with increased force. The bullets now used would kill at the distance of one mile. It is stated that the cost of keeping the machine in action, requiring four men in eighteen hours, would be £10, throwing more bullets than two regiments, each working nine hours, whose expenditure in cartridges would be £3,500.

Quick work.—The rapidity with which bottles are made is almost incredible. A workman, with the assistance of a gatherer

and blower, will begin and finish one hundred and twenty dozen of quart bottles in ten hours which averages nearly two and a quarter per minute, and this is ordinarily done, and in some works the men are restricted to two per minute to prevent the work being slighted.

Singular Fact about Engravers.—Cist's Advertiser informs us that William Harrison, who came to this country in 1792, was the first bank note engraver in the U. States. He engraved the plates for the United States Bank. He had five sons all engravers. Richard H., one of the sons, came to Marietta in 1841, and finished the first copperplate engraving ever executed in Ohio. His two sons now carry on the same business in Philadelphia. Another brother left four sons, all engravers. One of these had a son learning the business. Here is a singular case to occur in this country. A family for four generations following the same branch of mechanical business.

There are published at this moment in Paris no less than 25 daily newspapers. These Journals have an aggregate circulation of 150,000 copies.—Of these, the four journals having the largest circulation are the Constitutionnel, the Presse, the Siecle, and the Journal des Debats. These four papers have an average circulation of over 25,000 each.

Correspondence of the Chas. Even. News. New York, August 13, 1846.

The suicide of William M. Price, Esq., formerly U. S. District Attorney, and connected with the affair of Swartwout, will remind you of that of the English painter Haydon. Both were accomplished in the same cool and deliberate manner—both were produced by the same cause—pecuniary embarrassments. Poor Haydon had received a dunning letter from an attorney—Price had an execution on his furniture. Haydon had formerly been well patronized, and was now neglected. Poor Price had been rich, and was liberal, lending his money to all who asked him, but when poor he found none to return these favors. Each wrote letters to their families, and both shot themselves with a pistol. I note these circumstances because both these men were widely known, and the events are of recent occurrence.

Probably no man ever put an end to his life with more coolness and self-possession. Though Mr. Price must have been cut off practice for a long time, his last days were not a gloomy one. He had a comfortable fire at the target both hitting the "bull's-eye." There is nerve for you—for you must consider that his death was determined upon, and that he had upon his person the letters written to his wife and to the Coroner.

Mr. Price was an Englishman by birth—a brother of Stephen Price, formerly Manager of the Park Theatre. He leaves a wife and several children. One of them, a clerk in the Astor House, was sent for as soon as the body was recognized, and at the first sight of his father he fell senseless upon the floor. Another son is a lawyer, and both are esteemed by all who know them. It is a very sad affair.

The Government has chartered three ships for the California Expedition, which, it is now said, will be accompanied by two companies of regulars—to promote discipline, I suppose.

The Vice-President has gone to the Virginia Springs—not choosing to risk a public reception in Philadelphia,—that city whose character is so much at variance with his loving name and peaceful appearance. So our Democratic committees will not take that excursion just for the present.

Congress, forty years ago.—We some time since took occasion to animadvert on what we cannot help calling the littleness of Congress in furnishing pen-knives for its members. But we did not then know that this spirit had actuated our legislators to a still greater extent in the olden time. We have since seen the fact recorded that in 1807 the New England members were furnished with molasses for the purpose of making their favorite drink of switchel; and this item was charged in the general appropriation bill under the head of "stationery." Col. Claiborne, an old member from Virginia, moved on one occasion to insert an item for supplying the Southern members with something stronger. It was accordingly done, and for several sessions after, mint slings (juleps had not then been discovered) and peach and honey drinks, were supplied and charged under the head of "fuel." And it is remarkable that Congress burned more wood then than it has ever done since.—Even. News.

Commutation of Sentence.—The punishment of the negro, Dick, alias George, sentenced on the 30th July, to be hung for the murder of Wm. Ward, another negro, was commuted by the Governor, last week, to fifty lashes, two months solitary confinement, and perpetual banishment from the State. George had been recommended to the Executive for a commutation of punishment by the Magistrates and Freeholders who tried him.—Even. News.

Forbidden Knowledge.—The Greek word *Pseuche* signifies a moth, which, in seeking to approach the lamp becomes consumed in its flame; & the fabulous Psyche, lost by wishing to penetrate the mystery of her divine lover, allegorises the fate of the souls destroyed by the love of knowledge. According to the same mythology,

Prometheus formed the first woman from the clay, and animated with a fire stolen from heaven; an act which drew down upon him the heavy vengeance of Jupiter. Curious it is, that in some of the Oriental religions, as well as in the Pagan, we find similar dim shadowing of the Tree of Knowledge, and the fall of man. Not less widely disseminated is the tradition of an impious people destroyed by fire from heaven, and the legend of Banoois and Philemon would seem to show that the Greeks were not unacquainted with scriptural history of the Dead Sea.

Political.

From the New York Globe.

Mr. Calhoun's Memphis Report.

This document is destined to be a standard and standard commentary on one of the most difficult parts of the Constitution. The power to regulate commerce with foreign nations, and among the States, has received a greater diversity of construction than any other.

The Republican party has been more bewildered on this subject, and more inconsistent in its action than perhaps on all others. Jefferson and Madison approved appropriations for the Cumberland land road—which nearly all Democrats now condemn. But after Mr. Madison half sanctioned that work, and recommended to Congress the construction of other roads and canals, he turned suddenly round and vetoed a bill for surveys merely and made a sweeping declaration against the improvements of rivers, as well as the construction of roads and canals.—The great authority of Mr. Madison settled the question with many of his party.

But as in all cases where men permit themselves to be controlled by authority rather than principle or reason (for Mr. M. did not argue the question in this veto message,) the evil itself was not avoided, the name only was changed—for in a few years the harbor improvement system commenced. Mr. Madison having said nothing about harbors, nor established any principle by which the harbor system could be tried. The moment appropriations were made for harbors, all men saw the absurdity of withholding them from rivers, and hence the two were united and went on together. This policy commenced with the Administration of the second Adams, but it continued throughout that of Gen. Jackson, who, although he vetoed the Maysville road bill, and acknowledged the evil and danger of the system, it did not stop at that.

It is not to be wondered at, that the works of a local and those of national character has been generally rejected as unsatisfactory. For almost any work, particularly roads—the most objectionable—may be made national by being made long. Meanwhile, amid these doubtful and conflicting opinions, appropriations were going on without limit as to their amount or as to their principle—the only rule that governed them being that by which the requisite number of votes could be combined in Congress to carry them. Of course the populous out voted the sparsely settled districts—and the commercial and manufacturing sections appropriated the lion's share.

At last, however, the West came into Congress by the census of 1840, and being like the South chiefly agricultural, and connected with it by the most wonderful facilities of natural navigation on the Globe, the idea at once occurred that the time had arrived to demand for the Southern and Western waters their share of federal aid, and to determine the great principles on which a system should be founded; for interests had grown too vast and varied to tolerate longer uncertainty. The Memphis Convention was called, and was attended by the most prominent men of the West and South. Distinguished above all others came Mr. Calhoun, whose long and brilliant career in the chief departments of government naturally indicated him as the President of the body—and the man whose counsel was to be first called for. He delivered a speech on taking the chair which satisfied and delighted the Convention, and was received with general approbation throughout the Union. It was, however, not so well approved in some parts of South Carolina and Virginia—and Mr. Calhoun was threatened with the loss of some of his friends.

The proceedings of the Memphis Convention were however sent to Congress with a memorial, and the whole subject was committed to a select Committee, of which Mr. Calhoun was made Chairman.

He thus had an opportunity of presenting his views in the most elaborate and comprehensive manner—and has done so in his report. This document is perhaps one of the most able and characteristic of the many profound and original achievements of Mr. Calhoun's mind. It is a master piece, combining many qualities of the highest order, and such as, from their dissimilarity, are seldom united in the productions of the same mind. It is at once acute and comprehensive, deep and clear, plain and new.

He ascribes the power for improving our great navigable rivers to that conferred on Congress for the regulation of commerce among the States—one of the great objects for which the Convention that passed the Constitution was called. The regulation of commerce among the States, he construes to mean the regulation of commerce between the States; as there was no difficulty felt by the States before the union on regulating commerce within their several borders. The word commerce he construes to mean transit, as well as exchange of commodities, and shows it was uniformly so understood before the Constitution, as well in the mother country as in the colonies. And the word regulate comprehends provisions for the safety and convenience of transit as well as rules for the mere convenience of exchange. He limits also the power of the federal government to such rivers as belong to more than two States, since two States, but not more, may, under the Constitution, make compacts with the consent of Congress, and may therefore unite for the improvement of their rivers. But the States cannot, under the Constitution, make treaties; and therefore all arrangements between more than two must be by treaty, they are absolutely disqualified from such works.

That the framers of the Constitution themselves believed that power had been given to Congress to provide for the safety and convenience of commerce is inferred from the actual exercise of such power by the first Congress that met after the union, which commenced the light-house system along the Atlantic coast. And if government be authorized to incur expense to point out danger to the navigator, it is surely competent to remove the danger, particularly if less expensive. But Mr. Calhoun rejects the improvement of harbors, as well on the general ground that they are within the limits of States and not between them, as are rivers, as because the Constitution contemplates their improvement by the States to whom it gives evidently for that purpose the power of levying tonnage duties with the consent of Congress. Besides the improvement of harbors, (excepting those of refuge, which Mr. Calhoun excepts,) is always a matter of more local than general interest, and therefore, if necessary, never neglected—and hence could not have been an object in the formation of such a union as ours.

Finally, Mr. Calhoun suggests that to prevent all dispute or abuse, it would be proper Congress to levy a separate tonnage duty on vessels engaged in the several distinct channels of navigation—rivers, lakes and sea—and appropriate the fund derived from each trade to its separate benefit.

We consider the argument of Mr. Calhoun complete. Indeed, we see by the States referred to, who were at first alarmed about his Memphis speech. Mr. Calhoun has clearly expounded the Constitutional law on this subject—has shown its extent, its sufficiency for the case, and its limitation to the real cause which has arisen. He has penetrated the true meaning of the Constitution, and vindicated the profound wisdom of its framers out of a passage heretofore regarded as a blemish on that instrument. As long as that Constitution is maintained over the region which is washed by our waters, this commentary of Mr. Calhoun will stand for its interpretation.

From the N. Y. Journal of Commerce.
Ad Valorem Duties.—The Express has not yet corrected its oft-repeated assertion that in the case of ad valorem goods, Custom House appraisers are bound by the invoice except in cases of fraud. Of course its readers, if they have no better source of information, will continue to believe that the importer can enter his goods at whatever valuation he likes, provided only he can escape the imputation of fraud. Some of the protectionists, we dare say, honestly believe that fraudulent invoices are frequent at our Custom Houses, and that even where fraud cannot be proved, goods are got through the Custom House at prices far below their true value in the foreign port. Such men ought not to be confirmed in their delusion by the public press, but on the contrary, they should be made to understand. 1st. That the merchants are as upright a class of men as are to be found in the whole community; and 2ndly, that if they were otherwise, it would be next to impossible for them, under the rigid system of inspection and appraisement at our Custom House, to practice villany with success; while at the same time they would expose themselves to loss, fine and imprisonment, without any adequate motive on the score of gain. No one unaccustomed to the examination of goods, can well conceive the accuracy with which a well selected and experienced Custom House Appraiser or Inspector can determine their value. If the invoice differs from the true value, though it be but a trifle, they only need glance at it, in most cases, in order to detect the undervaluation. Every guard which the high protectionists of 1842 could throw around the subject, will remain in full force under the new law. And we have the authority of one of our most intelligent Appraisers for saying, that taken as a whole, it is not more difficult to ascertain the value of goods now paying specific duties, than of those paying ad valorem. At first there would be this difference, or might be, that the Appraisers would not be so familiar with the latter; but they will very soon learn, and in fact are now learning every day, by keeping specimens and prices of specific goods, while as yet the new bill has not gone into operation. In the four months which are to elapse before that event takes place, it need not be doubted that they will supply whatever lack of knowledge they may now experience in regard to certain descriptions of goods; and in case

they should, after all, distrust their own judgment, they will have full power to call in any number of disinterested merchants, and examine them under oath, as to the value of said goods, and the correctness of the invoice.

And pray is there any possibility of fraud in the case of specific duties? What if a weigher or measurer, for an adequate consideration, should keep a false tally, and report to the Collector only three fourths of the actual quantity: who would ever know it, unless the goods were afterwards exported with the benefit of drawback? This danger, whatever it is, will be avoided under the system of exclusive ad valorem duties.

Our opinion is, that the real objection to ad valorem duties in many minds, is not that they are more liable to fraud than specific duties, but that they are more strictly just; exacting the full measure of duty indicated by the value, and no more. Men who advocate minimums, and require that a poor article shall pay as high a duty as a good one, cannot be expected to approve of a system which in all cases graduates the duty according to the value.

If the new tariff diminishes the prices of manufacturers, it will benefit the great mass of the people—if it do not, the profits of the manufacturers will not be lessened.—Boston Post.

Rail Road Iron.—The Daily Mail does not admit that we shall get the Iron for our Rail Road \$100,000 less under the new tariff, than we should under the old. It says "The price of iron will rise in proportion as an increased demand is created by breaking down the American Tariff." This will be good news to the Pennsylvania Iron Works—as they are much disturbed lest the new tariff shall reduce the price. Verily "a second Daniel has come to judgment."

Lord John Russell's Sugar Measure.—Wilmer & Smith's Liverpool Times gives the following notice of this new project of Lord John Russell's.

The government is now fairly involved in the meshes of the sugar question. Lord John Russell propounded his measure on Monday last, and the discussion on its merits was to have commenced in the House of Commons last night, but in consequence of the death of his brother, it has been postponed until Monday. The debate will extend over several nights, and the result cannot be known until the next week. The features are briefly these:

As presently the sugar is 23½ d. It is to be reduced at once to 21s., and is to apply equally to all foreign sugar, free as well as slave grown. A scale of duties to extend over five years, dropping in the first year a shilling, in the second eighteen pence, in the third the same, in the fourth the same, in the fifth the same, and the end of which time all distinction between colonial and foreign sugar is to cease. This, in brief, is an outline of the plan.

"It is a bold and comprehensive plan—bold, because it annihilates at once the foolish and uncandid distinction between slave and free labor sugar—comprehensive because it includes every sugar growing country in its grasp."

Correspondence of the Charleston Even. News. WASHINGTON, Aug. 13, 1846.

Some of the papers, in speaking of the effects of the late tariff bill are attempting to make it out that even the common laborers of Europe are infinitely better off than our agricultural laborers and mechanics. The following statement, however, compiled from an official source, will convince them of their error.

In England, the average rate of wages for an able bodied man, with a family, is \$1.95 per week. From this is to be deducted cottage rent at 35 cts. per week, leaving \$1.63 to provide himself with the necessities of life. In France, a laborer in the same situation, receives \$1.04 per week; in Prussia 65 cents, in Germany \$1.02 per week, in Holland and Belgium \$1.20, in Italy and the Austrian States \$1.15. It will be remembered that these averages are those of the common laborer—shipper, carmen, mechanics, receiving rather more. The food which the wages above named will purchase in the several countries, is as follows:

In England, the laborer can obtain for his 163 cents on his week's wages, either 29 pounds of bread, or 11½ pounds of meat, or 74 pounds of butter, or 124 pounds of cheese, or 174 pounds of potatoes.

In France, with his 104 cents, he can buy either 46 pounds of bread, 124 pounds of meat, or 261 pounds of potatoes.

In Prussia, with his 66 cents per week, the laborer can buy either 36 pounds of bread, 16 pounds of meat, or 84 pounds of butter.

In Germany, with 103 cents, he obtains either 434 pounds of bread, 18 pounds of meat, 114 pounds of butter, 24 pounds of cheese, or 54 quarts of beer.

In Holland and Belgium; 120 cents will buy either 53 pounds of bread, 22 pounds of beef, or 460 pounds of potatoes.

In Italy and the Austrian States, the laborer with his 115 cents, can buy either 50 pounds of bread, 22 pounds of beef, 8 lbs. of butter, 8 pounds of cheese, or 165 pounds of potatoes.

When you find a man doing more business than you are, and you are puzzled to know the reason, just look at the advertisements he has in the newspapers.

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To lather an ox's head is only wasting soap.